

Lone Star Diplomat

No. 8

May 1, 1981

A Publication of Word Services, Inc.



J.R.Ewing - Stabmaster

Last month, LONE STAR DIPLOMAT received a request for a sample issue from a Dallas resident named John R. Ewing, Jr. On the hunch that it might be the one and only J.R.Ewing, nefarious oil and cattle baron of the Texas tradition, LSD sent him a copy and requested an interview. The hunch proved to be correct, and a short telephone interview was granted to our reporter Mike Whitty.

LSD: Mr. Ewing, we were surprised to find out that you were an avid fan of the game Diplomacy.

JR: Now, it shouldn't be that surprising. The game is a pretty fair psychological simulation of what I do every day. I help my friends, and I eliminate my enemies. Some people I only talk to, some people I deal with, and some people I screw.

LSD: When did you first play the game?

JR: When I was in graduate school. I didn't have much to do, since I paid people to write my papers and take my tests for me. The game had just come out, and I bought one in a hobby shop. For a while I played at least once a week. But now that I'm playing real-world diplomacy, I only catch a postal game every now and then.

LSD: Do you keep a set in your office?

JR: No, but the family does have a customized set at Southfork. The playing board is leather-topped, the armies are minted gold copies of each Great Power's flag, and the navies are solid gold WWI naval miniatures with different precious stones to distinguish national origin.

LSD: Does your family enjoy playing together?

JR: Well, not so much anymore. We've got enough problems as it is. I won the last game we played. My wife, my sister-in-law, and my niece were all eliminated by 1905. The endgame saw myself as Germany allied with my daddy, playing England, against my mother and my Brother Bobby, who played Russia and Italy. We stalemated, so I allied with my mother, stabbed my father, and won! That was fun.

LSD: Do you stab your ally in most of your games?

JR: Well, set's just say that nobody gets the best of old J.R.Ewing. Once an ally has outlived his usefulness, well.... Although once, I thought that I had gone too far. Before my wife came under suspicion for shooting me--it turned out later to be someone else--I was almost positive that I had nearly been murdered by a former ally whom I had stabbed in a postal game. Now, if you'll excuse me, I've got a business lunch to attend.

LSD: Thank you for your time, Mr. Ewing. And happy hunting!



"Well, one more day without irreversible damage."

EYES UPON:



81AU

Horned Toad

W 1900

IS IT WAR OR PEACE?
WHICH WAY WILL EUROPE JUMP?

AUSTRIA: Ted Kuhn; 5320 E. 81st;
Indianapolis, IN 46250.

ENGLAND: Allen King; 10020 Woodland Village;
Austin, TX 78750.

FRANCE: James S. Woodson; 218 Sanford Hall;
Minneapolis, MN 55455.

GERMANY: Bill Quinn; 219 E. Sunshine;
San Antonio, TX 78228.

ITALY: John S. Koehler; 2727 Duke #916;
Alexandria, VA 22314.

RUSSIA: Richard L. Reed; 414 W. Oak;
El Segundo, CA 90245.

TURKEY: Richard N. Sowter; PO Box 664;
Moab, UT 84532.

- ✓ Spring orders are due on Thursday, 28 May 1981.
- ✓ A little bit of prewar press--

ST.PETERSBURG: It is an honor to be one of the great brotherhood of enlightened and peaceful European rulers. If any of you dear fellows have any spare ikons, please send them to me at once so that I may add them to my beautiful collection in my private chapel, where I spend almost every waking hour praying for your precious souls.



J.R.Ewing in a rarely seen role as stab victim.

★ ROUNDUP

of Texas & International News

DALCON 81. Richland College in Dallas will be the site of this year's DALCON on June 5-7. Of course I will be interested in the Diplomacy tournament, but there will be a host of other activities, including D&D (1st team prize a trip to GENCON XIV), The Fantasy Trip (1st team prize \$150), Stellar Conquest (1st prize \$50), Ironclads, Creature that Ate Sheboygan (I), Ogre/GEV, Star Fleet Battles, Kingmaker, Traveller, 1/1200 Navals, Ancients, Napoleonics, and more. Seminars by game designers, computer games, plus the usual dealers' exhibits round out the attractions. Admission is \$7 before May 15, \$10 at the door. Write to DALCON 81; Richland College; 12800 Abrams Road; Dallas, TX for more information. I hope a lot of LSD readers from this part of the country will be there. I hope to go and face some of you across the Diplomacy board.

FIFTH LEEDER POLL. John Leeder, publisher of the zine RUNESTONE, has announced the 5th Annual North American Zine & Gamesmaster Poll. You are urged to vote for GMs under which you played and for zines and subzines you received during the polling period of April 1, 1980 through the present. Rate each zine, subzine, or GM from 0 (awful) to 10 (great), no fractions, please. Base your ratings on quality, however you define it, rather than on factors such as feuds, personalities, etc. Sign your ballot and indicate one way in which you participated in the hobby during the period of the poll (in order to establish eligibility). All votes will be kept confidential. Please list zines and GMs alphabetically in two lists to help the tabulation process. Defunct zines may be rated if they were active during the polling period. Deadline: 30 June 1981. Address: John Leeder; 121 19th Avenue, NE; Calgary, Alberta T2E 1N9 CANADA.

WHY VOTE? Unlike LSD's Hobby Mascot Poll, which poked fun at the institution of polling, the Leeder Poll has the serious purpose of comparing GM and zine quality. And it is taken very seriously, provoking controversy as to its worth and techniques. Some decry the poll as a mere popularity contest. Others see in it a valid measure of quality. However it is assessed, it will not be overlooked. Last year roughly 100 hobby members voted. I predict a substantial increase in participation this year. Despite the apples-and-oranges nature of Diplomacy zines, the poll will come up with quantitative means for comparing the diverse (motley?) offerings available to players and readers today. Since quality is such a subjective factor, it is natural that the judges in this contest are the subbers themselves. In effect, the poll asks all of us to order our preferences for the zines we receive. When combined with all other such ratings, we will find out how the hobby rates itself. In the process, the poll will provide grist for many a pubber's typewriter. I intend to vote, and naturally I hope all LSD subbers and players will take the time to grade my efforts and those of other publishers and GMs. Five minutes and 18¢ is not too much to ask, do you think?

GM ERRORS. All too common, alas, are errors of GMing and typing. You don't have to be a player in a given game to call an error to my attention. The sooner I find out about the mistake, the sooner I can notify the players concerned.

MAIL HASSLES. There is considerable debate on whether Canada or the United States has the worse mail system. Mail is so slow within Canada that postal Diplomacy games are frequently delayed. It's now rumored that except for postcards, mail will not be delivered unless in envelopes. Therefore all LSD's Canadian subscribers will receive this issue that way. If anyone did not receive LSD#7, please let me know. And can anyone confirm or deny this piece of news? (The USPS "B" stamp fiasco, which other countries do not accept as valid postage on international mail, just adds insult to injury! Fortunately we have a brand new flower-bedecked commemorative stamp for first class mail with the value printed on it, just in time to mail this issue.) As Glenn Overby remarked to me a phone conversation a couple of weeks ago, the



"Hobby Vacation" debate may be settled by a possible mail strike this summer. This would give us an enforced vacation which would scuttle current plans for an August vacation, since contract talks are scheduled for June, I believe. However, Fred Davis reported that the Reagan Administration has threatened the union with repeal of the statute which prohibits private firms from delivering 1st Class Mail. This has caused some second-thoughts, since the private carriers might do a better job than the USPS or at least offer some stiff competition. We'll see.

ZIMIAMVIA 2 & 3. New publications of the NADF, edited by its President, Rod Walker ("Alcala"; 1273 Crest Dr.; Encinitas, CA 92024 are now available, 35¢ for both issues. #2 is the Hobby Service Directory, a sort of Yellow Pages for hobby functionaries. #3 is a bibliography of publications available to fill out a diplomat's reference library.

NOT Y'ALL AGAIN!! Actually, it's really nice to get the record longest run of a fake zine [dare I coin a word here: fakezine?], Y'ALL is the quintessential Southern zine, now in it's 3rd issue. I don't know how to get on the mailing list, since the zine is supposedly published by Gary Coughlan (4614 Martha Cole Lane; Memphis, TN 38118) who really publishes the snappy new EUROPA EXPRESS, #3 of which also just came out. EE carries international games with 5-week deadlines

continued on page 4



Heart O' Texas Orphanage

Victory has a hundred fathers, but defeat is an orphan.

--Count Galeazzo Ciano



1979 HS **Armadillo** W 1900

**TURKS DOWN TO LAST PRAYER RUGS,
BEG FOR ALLAH'S INTERVENTION**

[Autumn 1906 : France disbands dsl A Bel]

AUSTRIA (Mark Larzelere): Removes F Aeg; has A SER, A GRE, & A BUL.

ENGLAND (Craig Williams): Removes F Nao; has F NTH & F ENG.

FRANCE (Larry Boudon?): Builds A PAR, also has A PIC, F MID, F LYO, F WES, & A TUN.

GERMANY (Doug Tatsch): Builds A KIE & A MUN; also has A SWE, A BUR, A HOL, F BEL, & F DEN.

ITALY (John Koehler): Builds A VEN; also has A BUD, A TRI, A APU, F ADR, & F ROM.

RUSSIA (John Daly): Has F LPL, F NWG, A NWY, A STP, A UKR, A RUM, A SMY, F ANK, & F BLA.

TURKEY (Bern Sampson): Still has A CONI

✓ Two players requested separation of seasons. Accordingly, spring moves already submitted will be used unless revised.

✓ The concession to Russia failed. A 4-way FGIR draw has been proposed. Votes will be tabulated before spring moves. NVR = yes.

✓ PRESS--

TURKEY-TWO JOHNS: You don't have to worry about pushing me out of the hobby, you're having a hard enough time eliminating my one unit.

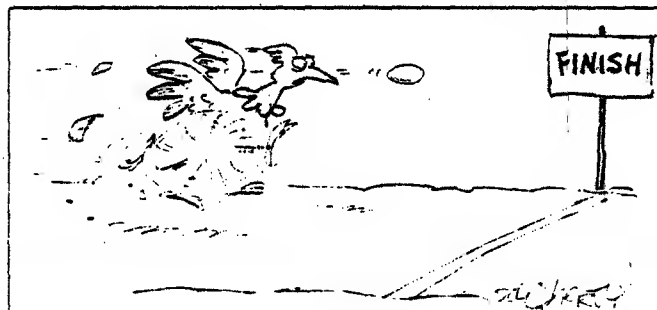
MALTA: Take heed, freedom-loving peoples of Europe! That Whore in Rome is once again casting its ugly, diseased specter over the face of Europe. The nation of Austria has already been ravaged; do not allow the Papal Pig to further despoil our fair lands. The good citizens of Malta call on any and all nations to smite the Whore before further atrocities are committed.

MOSCOW: That concession proposal wasn't my idea. I wouldn't dream of finishing this game unless it was in a draw with whatever allies I have left at the end.

TURKEY-RUSSIA: Sorry, but I prefer an honorable elimination to stabbing my only ally in this game.

79HS ENGLAND-79HT GERMANY: Although the new Austrian player may be know for his APPALLING GREED, like myself he is not in a position at the moment to do any greeding. Maybe a bit of surviving?

79HT GERMANY-79HS TURKEY: What are you worried about? All your neighbors are supporting you? With just a little more work, you could win this one.



79 HT **Bluebonnet** S 1907

**FRENCH NAVY OUTGUESSES GERMAN,
RUSSIAN SUPPORTS; VENICE FALLS**

FRANCE (Dave Ohlendorf): F Mar-LYO, A Spa-GAS, A Bur-MAR, A NAF h, F Mid-SPA(sc), F Nao-MID, F Edi-NWG, F NTH s F Edi-Nwg.

GERMANY (Dick Martin): A Mun-TYO, A Ruh-MUN, A BER s A Ruh-Mun, A Kie-DEN, F BAL s A Kie-Den, F NWY s French F Nth-Ska [nso], A SWE s F NWY.

ITALY (Tony Auxier?): NMR! A Tri h [dsl, ret to Pie, Tus, Apu, or dsb], A Rom h.

RUSSIA (Bob Peacock): A War-PRU, A LVN & A SIL s A War-Pru, A STP s A Lvn, A BOH s A SIL, F RUM h, F SKA s French F Edi-Nth [nso].

TURKEY (Charles Cunningham): A CON h, A BUL h, A SER h, F Tri-VEN, F ADR s F Tri-Ven, F NAP-Rom, F Ion-TRH, F Wes-TUN, F Smy-AEG.

✓ No standby will be called for Italy. Civil Disorder will be declared if another NMR ensues.

✓ A concession to Italy, and FGIRT & FGRT draws have been proposed. If you do not vote on a given proposal, that NVR = yes.

✓ PRESS--

KING GERBIL SPEAKS: Well, folks, the Infidel Russian Fleet has paid its price for fame. So much for invasions. Now, there is but one more ghostly fleet to annihilate, and we move back to the full offensive. Russian dogs! Prepare to die!

KING GERBIL-POPE ANTONIO: Welcome to the press war--it's a whole new ball game! You can, and to this date have, soundly beat the Terrible Turk in this war at least. And it does add some character to the game, does it not?

KING GERBIL-LSD: Excuse me, but I think you mean "Hobo & Zeke," don't you?

LSD-KG: You may be right. Konrad's handwriting is pretty awful.

GERMANY: OK, I'll buy the Italian concession. Anybody have land in Florida for sale? A cheap bridge?

MUNICH-FLORENCE: Hmm, I don't have much time right now. As it is, I don't think you have to worry about retaking Rome, at least not yet....

KING GERBIL-LSD: Oh thankyouthankyou! This separation didn't provide for any surprises, but it could have. The extra month keeps my brain from overheating!

GERMANY: By the way...I wrote all the "King Gerbil" press in case you hadn't guessed.

79HS TURKEY-79HT GERMANY: A little bit short, aren't you?

80IZ TURKEY-79HT GERMANY: I'm doing much better in this game, but not by much. Since you're playing short, can you spare me a build?

DEADLINE for all LSD games:



Thursday, 28 May 1981

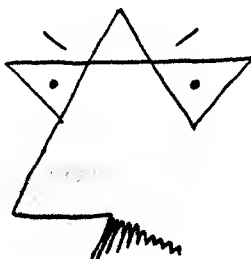
ROUNDUP cont. from p.2

Y'ALL carries no regular games, but the irregular ones are fascinating and now there's a subzine BO, pubbed by Bernie Oaklyn. Though Texans are not true southerners, I appreciate the chance to play in Y'ALL's all-south game as well as the plug for a "southern" zine. I hope the faker doesn't confess, but instead continue to publish this chuckler!

HOBBY MASCOT. I thought the whole matter was settled last month with the announcement that Bad Dog Brux garnered the most votes in LSD's poll. Two of the leading candidates, Caruso the Cat, and Trouble Linsey (another dog), made gracious concession statements, but not everyone's happy. Mark Lew is hacked because Nobody didn't win. John Michalski thinks there were only one or two "serious" candidates, and they lost. Bobby Stephens long ago called for a runoff among the top candidates in case no one received a clear majority. Gary Coughlan seconds the idea, since his also-ran candidate, a nameless shark, has more colorful campaign material. Really, Gary, even Fred Davis said a mascot with a name, say "Jaws", would be easier to support. It's not enough that near-libelous statements have appeared which attempt to cast doubt on the authenticity of the two leading candidates, who are live animals in their own right. Noooo! Now it seems that LSD just received an ominous note in the mails, hintings of some retribution for not acknowledging Pussy Galore as mascot. We reproduce this note below:

REGARDING THE RECENT UNAUTHORIZED AND ILLEGAL "ELECTION" FOR HOBBY MASCOT IN WHICH PUSSY GALORE WAS NOT CONFIRMED IN HER TRADITIONAL POSITION:

OF COURSE YOU
KNOW THIS MEANS
WAR....



Sincerely,
T.G.F.O.P.D.



HOBBY QUEEN ELECTION. While we nervously await the first salvo in the Mascot War, we want to throw LSD's support to Black Jack Masters for Hobby Queen. We didn't get a good picture before press time, but hope to have something for the readers next time.

PLUGS. Issue #2 of Dave Manuel's THE CHAMBER looks even better than the first, both in terms of reproduction (crisp digest format with good use of graphics) and improvements to his house rules. See what an enthusiastic and talented 14-year-old can produce by sending a few stamps to 10318 Oakgate; Bellflower, CA 90706. Dave has free openings in Diplomacy and one Third Reich opening....I have read

warnings about alleged past misdeeds of Larry Peery, (which he denies), but his and Mike Maston's revived zine XENOGOGIC certainly bears a good look. Again in digest format--but no center staple, tsk, tsk--this weighty zine is a little word-heavy for my taste, but when the games get underway, it might liven up a bit. Billed as Vol. 14, No. 2, the premier issue contained music (classical) and book features of interest to diplomats, previews of things to come, and list of fees (\$15/game includes sub). The games will be organized according to the interest of the players, e.g. Italian cooking buffs, Californians, etc. Write to the Institute for Diplomatic Studies; Box 8416; San Diego, CA 92102....

HORNED TOAD LORE. LSD's eighth game is codenamed in honor of the Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*). Not really a toad at all, this lizard has a spiny covering, and especially long spines on the head. They are about 5-6 inches in length, and are reputed to squirt a thin jet of blood from a corner of the eye for a distance of several feet. The most famous horned toad, Old Rip, was placed in a metal box and sealed in the cornerstone of the courthouse at Eastland, Texas in 1896. When the box was opened in 1927, the lizard was found to be alive. Old Rip was exhibited all over the US, including the White House where he was viewed by President Coolidge. Old Rip died 11 months later, was embalmed, and placed in the Eastland County Courthouse, where he can still be seen today.

DIPCON'82. Bids are now being taken for the site of The Diplomacy tournament. Describe your Con, usual attendance, lodging, costs, dates, etc. and send the information to Herb Barents (1142 S 96th Ave.; Zeeland, MI 49464) by June 15th. Bids for the 1983 con may also be considered, if a charter amendment passes.

PRESS POLICIES. LSD reserves the right to edit press. I will correct spelling and grammar mistakes that I notice, unless the author requests otherwise or the error seems intentional. I may make minor changes or wholesale deletions for reasons of space, taste, or inability to read crummy handwriting. I may print all of one country's press together or intersperse releases from various sources, depending on which seems more readable. I will always try to keep grey press (neutral datelines) anonymous, often separating it from other press releases by the actual author. Foreign language press is encouraged, but I will not be responsible for typographical errors. Cross-game press will be tolerated, but keep it to a minimum, please.

NMR INSURANCE. Boudon, Cunningham (both), Daly, Ditter, Fritz, Giddings, Hall, Hamlin, Henry, Keith, King, Koehler, Kuhn, Luedi, Martin, Mayes, Peacock, Pierce, Porteny, Reed, Sampson, Scheifler, Schleinkofer, Sergeant, Stephens, Tatsch, Williams.

STANDBYS. Donaldson, Fritz, Fuß, Gallagher, Grabar, Grabar, Hancock, Hartman, Henry, Jewett, Kador, Keith, King, Langley, Larzelere, McLendon, McPherrren, Mills, Nichols, Olsen, Pierce, Ridenour, Sampson, Scheifler, Schleinkofer, Sergeant, Stevens, Tatsch, Van Wie, C. Williams, J. Williams, & Woodson.

MAILING LIST. Add: Ted Kuhn (5320 E. 81st; Indianapolis, IN 46250), J. Lanning Myers (6609 Horseshoe Road; Clinton, MD 20735), Bill Quinn (219 E. Sunshine; San Antonio, TX 78228), Cindy Seelke (6023 Fontenelle Houston, TX 77035), Brenton Ver Ploeg (1980 Tigertail Ave.; Miami, FL 33133), & Peter Walker (R.R. 4 Omeme; Ontario, CANADA K0L 2W0).



1980 12

Cactus

S 1903

GREEK ISLANDS, MAINLAND FALL DESPITE ITALIAN AID OFFER

- ✓ GM error: Austria's F Gre was not dsl last season, therefore, Austrio has 2 SCs.
- ✓ Winter 1902: Austria removes A Ser; Englund dsb dislodged A Nwy, builds F Lvp, F Lon; Germany builds A Kie; Italy builds A Rom, F Nop; Russia builds A Mos, F Stp(nc).

AUSTRIA (Steve Cartier): F Gre-Ion [dsl, ret to Alb or dsb], F ADR s F Gre-Ion.

ENGLAND (David Pierce): F BEL-Pic, F Lon-ENG, F NTH s F Lon-Eng, F Lvp-IRI.

FRANCE (Gregg Fritz): F Mid-NAO, F BRE-Eng, A PAR-Pic, A BUR s A Par-Pic, A GAS s A Bur.

GERMANY (Charles Cunningham): A RUH-Bur, A MUN s A Ruh-Bur, A KIE-Ruh, A HOL h, F DEN h.

ITALY (James Lawniczak): F ION s Austrian F Gre [otm], F NAP s F Ion, A TRI-Ser, A VEN-Tri, A VIE s A Ven-Tri, A ROM-Ven.

RUSSIA (Bob Sergeant): F Sev-RUM, A Rum-SER, A BUD s A Rum-Ser, A GAL s A Bud, A Mos-UKR, A Nwy-FIN, F Stp(nc)-Nwy, F SWE s F Stp-Nwy.

TURKEY (Bern Sampson): A Smy-GRE, F AEG c, A Smy-Gre, A BUL s A Smy-Gre, F CON s A Bul.

✓ PRESS--

PARIS: The President wishes to express his concern over the total disregard of neighboring countries to observe Belgian neutrality. Unless Belgium is vacated immediately, France will take appropriate action to free Belgium from her captors.

FRANCE-TURKEY: How can someone be provoked when no communication exists between them?

FRANCE-WORLD: I realize 18¢ is a lot of money to shell out for a lousy stamp, but this lack of communication is ridiculous.

TURKEY-ITALY: Oh, please, Br'er Jim, please don't toss me in the briar patch!

TURKEY-RUSSIA: Oh, please, Br'er Bob, please don't toss me in the briar patch!

TURKISH TIMES (UPI): National Guard on Alert! The Turk National Guard has been placed on alert as rumors of an Italian army in Smyrna spread throughout the nation. Sultan Sampson assured the press that the rumours are unfounded, and that only Turkish armies shall stand on Turkish soil.

Texas Joke-Off

A free issue of LSD to the submitters of these five best/worst Texas jokes:

After man landed on the moon, NASA sent out samples of moon rocks to all major universities for their science departments to study and analyze. Well, they ran out just as they only had one university to go: Texas A&M. One of NASA's big brains came up with an idea: he went to a cow pasture, collected a small sample of cow pies, labeled it moon rocks, and sent it off to A&M. Two weeks later, the director of NASA got a letter from Texas A&M stating, "After thoroughly testing the moon rock samples you supplied us, we are thoroughly convinced that cows do indeed jump over the moon." --Mark Luedi

Did you hear about the Texan who was so big they couldn't find a coffin big enough to bury him? They let the air out of him and buried him in a shoebox. --Garry Hamlin

When you cross the Mississippi River at Memphis there is a sign which reads, "You are now entering Arkansas. Take the south fork to get to Texas and the north fork to go to Oklahoma." Lots of folks coming across the river stop and look at the sign; some go south, a few go north, and the ones who can read say put! --John Koehler

An Englishman, a Frenchman, a Mexican, and a Texan were on a trans-Atlantic balloon flight when their balloon started to leak. Soon all the ballast was gone, and still the balloon was dropping toward the waves below. Finally, the four decided jointly, better one than all. Suddenly the Englishman leaped to his feet, and shouting, "Long live the Queen!" dove from the gondola. The baloon surged upward, then sank anew. In the far distance land could be seen, but the balloon was dropping fast. The Frenchman leaped to his feet, shouted, "Vive la belle France!" and jumped. Once more the baloon rose and then started downward again. The Texan rose to his feet, shouted "Remember the Alamo!" and threw the Mexican over the side. --Steve Langley

Coloradan: "If God had wanted Texans to ski, He would have given them mountains."

Texan: "He did want Texans to ski. That's why He gave them money." --Bobby Stephens





1980 KG

Derrick

F 1902

EL ZAPPO TAKES LEPANTO EXPREZZ
TO ZYRIA; FRENCH MUNCH MUNCHEN

✓ *GM error: German F Kie & Russian F Bot stood off in Bal last season.*

AUSTRIA (Ned Nichols): A Ven-TRI, A Tri-SER,
A BUD & A BUL s Russian F Sev-Rum [nso],
F GRE s A Bul.

ENGLAND (Jack Smith): F Nwy-STP(nc), A Lon-BEL,
F ENG c & F NTH s A Lon-Bel.

FRANCE (Bobby Stephens): A Spa-GAS, A PIC-Bel,
A Bur-MUN, F BRE h, F MID h.

GERMANY (Al Giddings): A Bel-HOL, A Mun-SIL,
A Sil-PRU, F Kie-BAL, F SWE s F Kie-Bal.

ITALY (Mark Luedi): A Tun-SYR, F ION & F EAS c
A Tun-Syr, A VEN h.

RUSSIA (David Pierce): F SEV s Turkish F Bla-Rum,
F BOT-Swe, A GAL s A War, A WAR s A Gal.

TURKEY (Mike Henry): F Bla-RUM, A CON-Bul,
A Arm-SMY.

Supply Center Status for winter 1902 adjustments:

A: Home, Ser, Gre, BUL	6/build 1
E: Home, Nwy, STP, BEL	6/build 2
F: Home, Spa, Por	5/even
G: Home, Hol, Den, SWE	6/build 1
I: Home, Tun	4/even
R: Mos, War, Sev, Stp	3/remove 1
T: Home, Bul, RUM	4/build 1 (1 ann)

✓ *PRESS--*

FRANCE-TUNIZ: Ze Franch Government wizhez to extend itz heartfelt congratulationz to the newly comizzioned commander of the Italian 1st Army. Ze Franch will be zending an ambazzador to Tuniz zhortly to replaze the rezently recalled Ambazzador Devereaux who waz zummoned home due to the Pariz zstrikez. The new ambazzador's name waz not releazed by the Prez to the Prezz.

TUNIZ: Thouzandz gathered at ze zity'z quayz to jubilantly bid farewell to Zeneral El Zappo, wizhing him their bezt for hiz voyage to Zyria. Reportedly, ze Zeneral will zpend zome time at hiz new azzignment leizurely, hunting turkey and ztarting hiz long postponed writing career. Ze Zeneral haz also been ztudy-ing, increazing hiz awarenz of politicz, histry, economicz, zstrategy(!), metaphyzicz, and Victorian drezz dezn. He znubz any advize concernng language improvement, content with hiz eazy effective zpeaking abilitiez, which mezmerize hiz audienzez az he expoundz hiz philozophiez. Zeleral El Zappo iz initiating a campaign to zmazh the effectz of ze Rubik's Cube epidemic, largely by zmazhing ze cubez them-zelvez.

NAF-TUNIZ: Go West Young Man. The time is right.

GENEVA: It has been learned by Swiss agents in Moscow that Russia's Tsar Nicholas, in Moscow on a fall tour, has alledgedly been constructing plans calling for an all-out attack on Germany. Tsar Nicholas is reported to have said, "The Godless Huns must pay for their past lies, threats, & treachery, and Russia is prepared to extract payment."

LON-VIE: HRM is most grateful for your timely suggestion. The Tsar's caviar has great appeal to the Court of Windsor.

KAISER-TSAR: If it's a war you want, it's a war you'll have. I aim to please. But the people of Poland wish liberation. I'm forced to help them against the big, bad bear who doesn't know how to write. You've seemed to have made a lot of friends, what's your secret? Besides terrible diplomacy, that is. WAR-PAR: The Russian army has just been supplied with a secret weapon which is being manufactured at a

secret base in Switzerland. When Herr Doktor was informed of the fanatic morale the possession of this weapon instilled in the Russian troops, he was overheard begging the King of England to cover his backside while he sent all available units to defend his eastern border. The King is reported to have replied that he would be glad to assist as long as it didn't interfere with the spring vacation he plans to spend in Breast [sic, I think].

SEV-CON: The secret police have now verified the existence of a substantial threat to your southern coast. The source is exceptionally reliable, having accurately predicted the movement of Turkish troops into Armenia a week before it took place.

TURKEY-WORLD: I trusted a phone call from Austria telling me he would support my A Bul-Rum and also F Gre-Ion. Well, now when you get his calls you can know he lied once, he'll do it again. I guess my mistake is I do not lie, I just can't really talk to someone I'm stabbing & maybe this is the reason I've lost a lot of the joy in postal Dip & have joined the AHKS group in boardgaming where it is one-on-one with little or no diplomacy. In this game I've no letters from Russia in answer to my last two letters & little correspondence from anyone except Germany who has written.

GERMANY-EUROPE: Herr Doktor now makes house calls to those whose writing hands are broken. I understand setting bones is easier than pulling or filling teeth. I'll soon find out!

MOS-LON: That was certainly a novel way to secure my support into Denmark. I suppose you now want me to move to Finland so that I can support you into St. Petersburg.

PAR-LON: The French offer still holds. Remember the N.P.T.E.C.!

LONDON TIMES PERSONALS: F. M. DeR.--Returning hardly used copy of Nine Point Treaty of Everlasting English-French Concordance. HRM didn't see it my way. Perhaps you find a future use for it. Regretfully, P.M. JWS II.

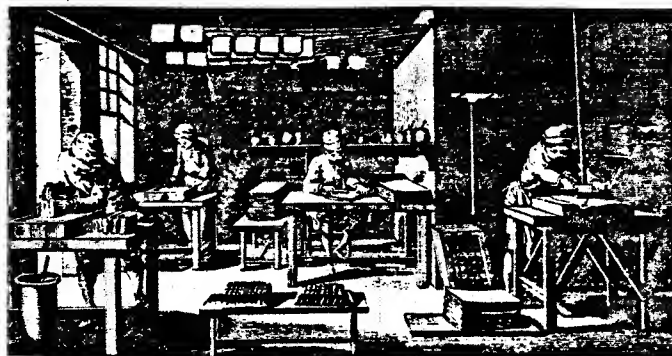
LON-PAR: HRM has decided to opt for the easy installment plan rather than the balloon payment at the end. It was the failure to provide an earnest payment that soured the deal. Das SCHLEIDOR INTER-NATIONALE GELDNEHMEN BURO is anticipating rich commissions for tis work in the coming seasons.

GAL-BUD: The Russian forces here are most dissatisfied with existing conditions and wish to leave as soon as possible. Your assistance in directing them toward the enemy will be appreciated.

FRANCE-LSD: Tell me about DALCON.

LSD-FRANCE (& GERMANY, TOO): See page 2 of this issue.

Origins of Diplomacy



The invention of moveable type led the postal Diplomacy hobby to create the first true mass-circulation zines. This farm of publishing, shawn in the photo discovered by our staff, eventually supplanted the manual recopying method, despite claims that only the latter was fannish.

1981 A **Enchanted Rock** S 1902**BRITISH GAIN BELGIAN BERTH;
KAISER ORDERS EASTERN OFFENSIVE**

AUSTRIA (Fred Winter): F Tri-ALB, F GRE-Ion,
A Vie-BOH, A Bud-GAL, A SER-Tri, A BUL h.
ENGLAND (Jim Keith): F Nwy s German F Den-Swe
[nso; dsl, ret to Bar, Nwg, Ska, or dsb],
A Yor-BEL, F NTH c A Yor-Bel, F LON-Eng.
FRANCE (William Owen): F BRE-Eng, F Por-MID,
A Spa-GAS, A Par-PIC, A BUR-Bel.
GERMANY (Thomas Hancock): A Ber-PRU, A Mun-SIL,
A Kie-DEN, A HOL s English A Yor-Bel,
F Den-BAL.
ITALY (Guy Hall): A TYO-Tri, A Apu-VEN,
F Nap-APU, F TUN-Ion.
RUSSIA (Dan Stafford): F Sev-BLA, F RUM s
F Sev-Bla, A Arm-Smy [dsl, ret to Syr, Sev,
or dsb], F Stp(nc)-Nwy, F SWE s F Stp-Nwy,
A Mos-STP.
TURKEY (Mark Johnson): F CON-Bul(sc), A Ank-ARM,
A SMY s A Ank-Arm.

✓ COA: Fred Winter; 2625 El Rancho Dr.; Brookfield,
WI 53005.

✓ PRESS--

LUXEMBOURG: Smile, it's springtime!

PRAGUE: Emperor Franz (Fritz "the Aardvark") J,
while marching with his army in the countryside, is
still receiving dispatches from his ambassadors, and
today composed his foreign policy for the immediate
future:

Austria's Red, and Italy's Green,
And we're a lot bigger, 'cause they're not as mean.
Turkey is Yellow, which is why they ran,
And Russian White is the sign of true friends.
Germany's Black speaks of coming death,
And the others are Blue 'cause together they're not
even second best.

Invisible Hungarians are a secret, chuckled me,
The Yellows couldn't see them, gave up Sofia for
free,

Yet they are there, Green sees them, and is flush
with jealousy.

VIENNA: The Empire Department of Redundancy Dept.
noted today that before leaving on his latest military
excursion, Fritz J proclaimed a 1000 crown bounty on
each dead armadillo scalp brought to any of the
empire's provincial capitals. The move was due to a
slander by a visiting American war correspondent who
has the two confused. "We'll send him a boxcar load
of dead armadillos, covered with ants from top to
bottom. Without aardvarks, with which the Dual
Monarchy is blessed (and whose export to Texas is
forbidden by the same decree which outlaws turkey in
the DM) those ants will eat those stupid Texans alive.
Maybe it will teach them the difference." Responding
to questions, the spokesman also uttered, "They are
all fire ants, too, recently captured in Bulgaria and
brought by the Turks."

BUDAPEST: The Secret Hungarian Army General
Staff secretly tore out their hidden (under their mili-
tary hats) hair over Fritz the J's latest diplomatic
babbling. Covert operations are underway, however,
to smooth over relations with Italy. In cooperation
with the Department of Redundancy Department's
Office of Ants, Aardvarks, Armadillos, and Assorted
Arthropods, a sealed freight-car loaded with prize
Austrian Aardvarks is stealthily winding its way to
the Italian frontier, as a gift for the Pope.

PAR-VIE: Congratulations on a banner year. Conrad
would be proud of you.

ROM-CON: I look forward to meeting you in face-to-
face competition at the DALCON diplomacy sessions.

ALGIERS: President Flaubert yesterday joined the
Italian pasta-eating and negotiating team here in
Algeria for the treaty-signing which aligns the two
great nation's foreign policy. He arrived in 1st-class
style in this resort capital of French North Africa
through the courtesy of Italy's fine French ally.
Archduke Francis Ferdinand, a noble member of the
House of Hapsburg, personally greeted the President.
This morning at breakfast pasta & negotiation the
Archduke, his man-servant, a fanatic Serbian national
from a newly acquired Austro-Hungarian province,
Gravo Princip, and a host of hashish eaters from a
secret Russian terrorist organization, the Narodniki
drew the latest in Austrian weaponry and massacred
the Italians in their spaghetti sauce!
ROME: Upon receiving the news of President Flaubert's
murder, King Humberto himself a recent survivor of
an assassin's bullet arrived from exile in New York to
resume command of the government in its hour of need.
His first act (and last) was to appoint the Ambassador
to the Hapsburg Court to command the Army of Tyrolia,
now renamed the First Mob of Occupation and Vengeance.
Ex-Ambassador D'Annuncio and a small coterie of
officers assassinated the King during an inspection
tour of the Istrian front. The new ruling junta of
officers & gentlemen, Republicans all, declared war on
Hungary (so as not to risk the displeasure of the
great C. nor of a certain aardvark) and asked
permission from the Austrian government to march
through Trieste and Vienna to Budapest. The Italian
army & navy has begun assembling from their recent
maneuvers in the Mediterranean and southern Italy in
expectation of besieging Budapest.
VENICE: From the command post of poet-philosopher-
statesman-futurist-militarist-nationalist-conqueror-
admiral-general-master of hoof & mouth D'Annuncio
came the warning that the Hungarian desire for naval
supremacy over the Italians, like Kaiser Wilhelm's de-
sire for supremacy over the British Navy, can only
lead to war between Italy & Hungary. BE READY FOR
FOR WAR.
BER-ROM: Thanks for your last letter, I also look
forward to our future cooperation.
BERLIN: Today at a press conference the Kaiser ex-
pressed his hope that peace would be maintained in
the West. He said if war does break out, Germany
would remain neutral. When asked about Holland, he
said that a balance of power must be kept to keep
everyone happy.
DUBLIN: Irish Republican Army terrorists seized the
entire Parliament today, holding over 100 MPs hostage.
Among their demands were non-interference in Belgian
affairs, total troop withdrawals from Norway and a
free Irish state. These demands are non-negotiable.



STEINBERG



AUSTRIA (Art Schleinkofer): A SER-Bul, F GRE s
A Ser-Bul, A BUD-Ser, A VIE-Bud.
ENGLAND (Bryan Jurkowski): F Eng-BRE,
A NWY-Stp, F NTH-Nwy, F Edi-NWG.
FRANCE (Arturo Guajardo): A Gas-PAR, A SPA-Mar,
F Mid-GAS.
GERMANY (George Cunningham): A Bur-PIC,
A Mun-BUR, A Kie-RUH, A DEN-Swe, F HOL h.
ITALY (Paul Goodrich): F Nap-TRH, F Tun-WES,
A PIE-Mar, A Ven-TYO.
RUSSIA (Don Scheifler?): NMR! F SWE, F STP(nc),
F RUM, A SEV, A GAL, & A MOS h.
TURKEY (Mike Drews): A BUL h, F BLA s A Bul,
A Arm-ANK, F Smy-AEG.

✓ PRESS--

[illegible]

But LSD's typewriter has a piano key!

by Albert Goldbarth

language...the French say 'sit in my chair' and they mean flesh."

Z is the most neglected character in the English language. E is by far the most popular. For each Z used in the formation of words the following proportions have been fairly accurately established for the usage frequency of the other 25 letters.

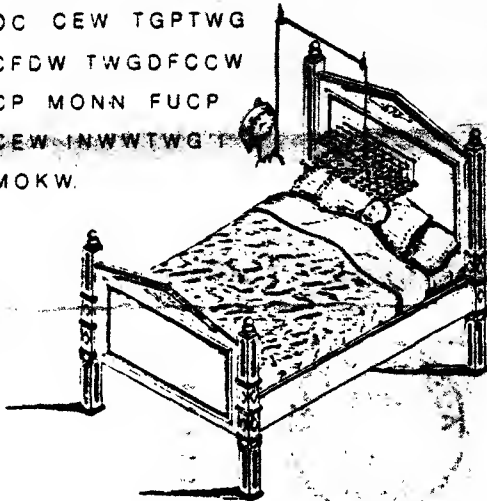
**E-60, T-45, A-42.5, I,
N, O, & S-40, H-32, R-
31, D-22, L-20, U-17, C
& M-15, F-12.5, W & Y-10, G & P-8.5,
B-8, V-6, K-4, Q-2.5, J & X-2 & Z-1.**

The PUZZLER

PATENTLY ABSURD

Perhaps the letter frequency chart at the top of this page will help you with this cryptogram, taken from a back issue of GAMES magazine, which also publishes the 4-Star Puzzler. Spaces represent spaces in the description of the device pictured, which is actually on file at the U.S. Patent Office.

2.COKCFNW ONOGD KNPKZ
OKCFBOCWL VH OSCPDOCFK
LWBFKWI, CEW MGODW FI
OC CEW TGPTWG
CFDW TWGDFCCW
CP MONN FUCP
CEW INWWTWG
MOKW.



MURDER MYSTERY

Garry Hamlin gets a free issue of LSD for sending us this brain teaser:

John came home and found Mary dead on the floor, lying alongside some water and broken glass. It was immediately evident that the house had not been broken into--the furniture was in order, the cat was purring, and the windows and doors had not been forced. Although John knew that the house had not been entered since he left an hour before, he also immediately knew how Mary died, who killed her, and why.

Hard Answers to Simplest Quiz

For those too lazy to trek to the library to find the answers to last month's quiz, we present the answers here:

1. 116 years, from 1337 to 1453.
2. November (on the 7th). Russia's calendar was 13 days behind.
4. El Salvador. It's a medicinal herb grown by the Balsam Indians.
5. The Manx shearwater. Puffins are genus *Fratercula* or *Lunda*.
6. The sheep.
7. A hard-wearing cotton fabric called moleskin.
8. They're fruits grown in New Zealand.
9. Sixteen. The one known as Louis XVII died in prison during the Revolution and thus never reached the throne.
10. A breed of large dogs. The Latin name was *Canariae insulae*--"Islands of Dogs".
11. Albert. When he came to the throne, he respected the wish of Queen Victoria that no future king should be called Albert.
12. The distinctively colored parts are crimson.
13. In spring, from April 29 to May 1.
14. It is usually made of squirrel's hair.
15. 30 years, of course: 1618 to 1648.

Robot Logic Answer

The first smartest student in the class, Azik Isomorph, said to ask any robot, "If I were to ask each of you whether you are male or female, and your two companions gave the same answer, would your answer agree with theirs?"

The truther would say no, the liar would say yes, and the sometime would be unable to reply because she knows that her companions could not give the same answer. By asking any two robots this question, the identity of the third could be deduced.

"I must admit," said Isomorph, "that the sometime could answer yes or now, either answer would in a vague sense be a lie. But the question would at least cause the sometime to think a long time before answering, if at all. Therefore this is a legitimate two-question solution."

STAR OF THE MONTH:

Mark Law sends us this appropriate star for our puzzler page! One more freebie for Mark!

**THE 4★
PUZZLER**

P.O. Box 10149
Des Moines, Iowa 50349

Happy Mayday!



1981 P

Gulf Coast

W 1901

RUMORS OF GERMAN MILITARY COUP COLOR EUROPEAN WINTER WAR TALKS

AUSTRIA (Robert Jewett): Builds A TRI & A BUD; also has A TYO, A SER & F GRE.
 ENGLAND (John Mayes): Builds F LON; also has F NTH, F NWY, & A EDI.
 FRANCE (Luis Porteny): Builds A PAR, A MAR, & F BRE; also has A BEL, A SPA, & F POR.
 GERMANY (Gary Van Wie?): NBR! Has A KIE, A MUN, & F HOL. [Plays 1 short].
 ITALY (Don Ditter): Builds F NAP; also has F ION, A TUN, & A VEN.
 RUSSIA (Garry Hamlin): Builds F STP(sc) & A MOS; also has F SWE, A GAL, A RUM, & F BLA.
 TURKEY (James Williams): Builds F SMY; also has F AEG, A CON, & A BUL.

✓ Will Jim Ridenour; 529 W. Foster Ave. #26; State College, PA 16801; please submit standby orders for Germany?

✓ PRESS--

ROM-ANK: Beware of the Showers of April, they will drown you. Then you will feel only water & see me towering above you on the hill known as Acropolis. I will be wearing a pink carnation.

ANK-ROM: STOP! In the name of love, before you break my heart. Think it oh-over.

ANK-SYR: Remember guys, if you see any little green men in little green boats headed this way, blast them boogers right outa the water!

ZURICH: International Dip Press reports English army in northern Scotland conducting maneuvers in snow shoes and crosscountry skis. This was hard without snow, but they said that where they would be by fall, there was lots of snow.

ANK-MOS: HEY! YOU! Get off of my cloud!

ST.PETE-SULTAN AL TUNA: Sorry Charlie. As you well know, the Russian presence in the Black Sea amounts to nothing more than harmless fishing trawlers operated by landless peasants who can feed themselves

and their families in no other way, assisted by a handful of support vessels for their protection in international waters. Your characterization of this pitiful assembly as a "fleet", "neutral-colored" or otherwise, is so grossly a distortion of the facts that it borders on ridicule. The Tsar's heart cries out at the misery of his people; please be advised that he finds your mockery of their suffering brutal, uncalled for, and all too typical of your administration.

ROM-VIE: I sure hope TYO is anti-German, not anti-Italian. There may be hope for the drowning Turk yet if Vienna opens the floodgate at Venice!

SALZBERG: The former Postmaster of Austria-Hungary arrived today to take his new position at the bottom of the pit in the salt mines here. Mostly for lousing up the orders to the army in Vie which was supposed to go to Gal, but instead went on a ski holiday in the Tyrolia. Seems he replaced the official orders with an "Urlaube Riese Ski" advertisement.

GAL-VIE: The Russo-Polish army announces the establishment at Bratislava of extension courses from the Philosophy Dept. of the University of Vienna. Scheduled for discussion in the course material are age-old questions like "What am I doing here?" "How did I get here?" and "Where am I going?" Specifically, the army as a whole would like to know what it's doing in Galicia--and why the Austrian military command agreed to stand off with them there, but instead went on leave in the Alps, all of which after the Dual Monarchy had sent explicit word that a Russian occupation of Galicia meant war. Among other things, the Tsar would like to know if a state of war exists between Austria and Russia. The Tsar intends to audit these extension courses himself, and fully expects to find an answer to these questions.

NICKY-QUEEN VICTORIA: Thanks, Grammy, I'll be a good boy. I promise I will. Our agreement is carved in the marble of the palace walls.

ANK-VIE: Hello...Hello...Hello...is there anybody in there? Just nod if you can hear me. Is there anyone at home?

ANK-PAR: Comment allez vous?

ANK-BER: PLEASE! Don't let these rather untoward events of the recent past get in the way of Oktoberfest. The wives and I do so look forward to it!

ANK-LON: Done!



★Lone Star Diplomat

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Alan B. Calhamer invented DIPLOMACY®, which
first appeared commercially in 1959 in essentially
its present form. The Avalon Hill Game Company
now owns the copyright and publishes the game.

T Jerry Jones
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Rose USA 18c

FIRST CLASS MAIL

See page 3 for deadline